AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1.   (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A home network system comprising:

at least one slave device; and

a master device operatively connected to the at least one slave device, the master device comprising:

a microprocessor operatively connected to the at least one slave device for repeatedly sending a status request signal to the at least one slave device and receiving one or more response signals from the at least one slave device;

a memory coupled to the microprocessor for constructing an operation history database by cumulatively storing operation status data of the at least one slave device included in each response signal, wherein the microprocessor extracts data from the operation history database when a history inquiry request is received from a user; and

a display unit coupled to the microprocessor for displaying the extracted operation history data,

wherein the operation status data includes data related to specific functions performed by the at least one slave device.

2.   (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The home network system of claim 1, wherein the microprocessor identifies the at least one slave device by checking an identification (ID) of the at least one slave device.

3.   (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The home network system of claim 1, wherein the displayed operation history data includes a list of operations or events performed by the at least one slave device during a predetermined period of time.

4.   (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The home network system of claim 1, wherein the history inquiry request received from the user includes a user selection of a period of time, and the displayed operation history data includes a list of operations or events performed by each of the at least one slave device during the selected period of time.

5.   (ORIGINAL) The home network system of claim 1, wherein the operation status data included in each response signal includes information indicating initiation or completion of an operation and a corresponding time of the initiation or completion.

6.   (ORIGINAL) The home network system of claim 1, wherein the master device is any one of a television (TV) receiver, a refrigerator having a display panel, a personal computer (PC), and a personal data assistant (PDA) device.

7.   (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The home network system of claim 1,

wherein the master device includes a capability to activate a message BLOCK function which prevents messages sent from the at least one slave device from being displayed, and

wherein the memory cumulatively stores the operation status data included in each response signal, regardless of whether a even when the message BLOCK function of the master device is currently activated or not.

8.   (ORIGINAL) The home network system of claim 1, wherein the microprocessor and the at least one slave device are connected together through Power Line Communication (PLC) modems.

9.   (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A television (TV) receiver connected to a plurality of slave devices in a home network system, the TV receiver comprising:

microprocessor coupled to the plurality of slave devices for repeatedly sending status request signals to the plurality of slave devices and receiving one or more response signals from each of the plurality of slave devices;

a memory coupled to the microprocessor for constructing an operation history database by cumulatively storing operation status data of the plurality of slave devices included in each response signal, wherein the microprocessor extracts data from the operation history database when a history inquiry request is received from a user; and

a display unit coupled to the microprocessor for displaying the extracted operation history data,

wherein the operation status data includes data related to specific functions performed by the plurality of slave devices.

10.   (ORIGINAL) The television (TV) receiver of claim 9, wherein the microprocessor and the plurality of slave devices are connected together through Power Line Communication (PLC) modems.

11.   (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The television (TV) receiver of claim 9,
wherein the displayed operation history data includes a list of operations or
events performed by one or more of the plurality of slave devices during a
predetermined period of time.

12.   (ORIGINAL) The television (TV) receiver of claim 9, wherein the
history inquiry request received from the user includes a user selection of at
least one slave device, and the displayed operation history data includes a list
of operations or events performed by each selected slave device during a
predetermined period of time.

13.   (ORIGINAL) The television (TV) receiver of claim 9, wherein the
history inquiry request received from the user includes a user selection of a
period of time, and the displayed operation history data includes a list of
operations or events performed by each slave device during the selected period
of time.

14.   (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The television (TV) receiver of claim 9,

wherein the television (TV) receiver includes a capability to activate a
message BLOCK function which prevents messages sent from the at least one
slave device from being displayed, and

wherein the memory cumulatively stores the operation status data included in each response signal, ~~regardless of whether a~~ even when the message BLOCK function of the television (TV) receiver is currently activated ~~or not~~.

15.   (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method of providing operation history data in a home network system, the method comprising:

repeatedly sending status request signals to a plurality of slave devices, respectively;

receiving one or more response signals sent by each slave device in response to the status request signals;

constructing an operation history database in a memory by cumulatively storing operation status data of the plurality of slave devices included in each response signal into the memory; and

extracting data from the operation history database when a history inquiry request is received from a user, wherein the extracted operation history data is displayed on a display unit,

wherein the operation status data includes data related to specific functions performed by the plurality of slave devices.

16.   (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 15, further comprising identifying the plurality of slave devices by checking their identifications (IDs).

17.   (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 15, wherein the displayed operation history data includes a list of operations or events performed by the plurality slave devices during a predetermined period of time.

18.   (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 15, wherein the operation status data included in each response signal includes data indicating a current operation status of a slave device.

19.   (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 15, wherein the operation status data included in each response signal includes information indicating initiation of one or more operations by a slave device and a time of the initiation.

20.   (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 15, wherein the operation status data included in each response signal includes information indicating completion of one or more operations by a slave device and a time of the completion.

21.   (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 15, wherein the operation status data included in each response signal includes information indicating that there is no operation in progress.

22.   (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 15, wherein the history inquiry request received from the user includes a user selection of at least one slave device, and the displayed data includes a list of operations or events performed by each selected slave device during a predetermined period of time.

23.   (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 15, wherein the history inquiry request received from the user includes a user selection of a period of time, and the displayed operation history data includes a list of operations or events performed by each slave device during the selected period of time.

24.   (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 15, wherein the user automatically makes the history inquiry request by turning the power of a master device on.

25.   (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 15, wherein the user manually makes the history inquiry request by activating a corresponding function key provided within the master device.

26.   (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 15, wherein sending one status request signals to the plurality of slave devices is performed repeatedly.

27.   (NEW) The method of claim 15, further comprising:

activating a message BLOCK function which prevents messages sent from the plurality of slave devices from being displayed; and

continuing to cumulatively store the operation status data included in each response signal even when the message BLOCK function is activated.

28.   (NEW) The home network system of claim 1, wherein the at least one slave device is configured to respond to the status request signal from the master device by sending to the master device the response signal that indicates that the at least one slave device is idle.

29.   (NEW) The television (TV) receiver of claim 9, wherein the response signals from a particular slave device of the plurality of slave devices indicates that the particular slave device is idle.

30.   (NEW) The method of claim 15, wherein the steps of sending the status request signals and receiving the response signals are performed using a PLC modem.

31.   (NEW) The method of claim 15, wherein the response signals from a particular slave device of the plurality of slave devices indicates that the particular slave device is idle.